

Annual Report
— on the —
Health
— of the —
Tenterden Rural Sanitary
District
— in —
1897.

<i>Census 1881.</i>		<i>Census 1891.</i>	
<i>No. of Acres</i>	<i>38,854</i>	<i>No. of Acres</i>	<i>38,854</i>
<i>Inhabited Houses..</i>	<i>1,436</i>	<i>Inhabited Houses</i>	<i>1,400</i>
<i>Population</i>	<i>6,841</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>6,537</i>

The Population of the Tenterden Rural District was estimated by the method adopted by the Registrar-General to be 6,354 at the middle of 1897, showing a decrease of 29 since the middle of 1896.

One hundred and twenty three births were registered during the year, including 60 of males and 63 of females giving a birth-rate of 19.3 per 1,000 of population as against 23.0 in 1896 and 27.7 in 1895.

The registered deaths amounted to 62, consisting of 32 of males and 30 of females and giving a Death-rate of 10.8 per 1,000 as against 15.8 in 1896 and 15.1 in 1895.

Of the total 62 deaths 5 were caused by one or other of the seven principal Zymotic diseases, viz: 4 by Diphtheria and one by Enteric Fever.

The Zymotic Death-rate was again very low, being only 0.7 per 1,000 of population as against 0.6 in 1896.

The Infant Mortality, i.e. the number of deaths of Infants under one year of age per each 1,000 registered births was 81 as compared with 95 in 1896 and 101 in 1895.

During the year 1897 the birth-rate throughout England and Wales, taken as a whole was 29.7, the general death-rate 17.4 and the Zymotic death-rate 2.15 per 1,000 persons living. The rate of mortality amongst infants under one year of age to 1,000 registered births was 156.

The general death-rate, the Zymotic death-rate and the rate of mortality among infants in the Tenterden Rural District are therefore 6.6, 1.45 and 75 below the above rates, showing the Vital Statistics to be of an eminently satisfactory character.

Notifiable Diseases.

Under the provisions of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, 28 cases were reported as compared with 20 in 1896, viz:— 2 of Scarlet Fever, 19 of Diphtheria, 3 of Enteric Fever, and 4 of Erysipelas. No cases of Small-pox occurred in the District.

Scarlet Fever. The only two cases reported were not fatal and occurred one in the Parish of Appledore, and the other in Newenden.


Diphtheria. A comparatively large number of cases of this disease was notified, 19 in all, 15 of which occurred in the Parish of High Halden. The other four were notified, two from Appledore and 2 from Rolvenden.

The cases and deaths occurred at the following age-periods:—

0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	
<u>year</u>	<u>years</u>	<u>years</u>	<u>years</u>	<u>years</u>	
2	3	9	2	3	= 19 cases
1	1	1		1	= 4 deaths

One of the deaths occurred at Appledore, 2 at High Halden and one at Rolvenden.

The outbreak at High Halden which included 15 cases, commenced on February 22nd, and the last notification connected with it was received on April 2nd. Ten of the cases occurred in one house, the whole family contracting the disease, one after another. The sanitary defects found were certainly calculated to favour the spread of any infectious disease and included insufficiently trapped drains, cesspool overflowing into an adjoining ditch close to the house and drinking water obtained from an unprotected pond at the bottom of the garden.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30181707>

In a later case, which I investigated the sink waste pipe was found to be directly connected with the drain, and in another broken bell-traps to the drain were found and the house was damp and said to have been built on the filled up site of an old pond.

I visited the Schools on March 19th and having conferred with Mr. Stacks, Schoolmaster, and members of the School Committee we decided to close the Schools for 3 weeks with, I think, very good results as no fresh cases were afterwards notified with the exception of those occurring in members of the family previously referred to.

During the closure the School was thoroughly cleaned out and the slates etc scrubbed and disinfected and all the slate sponges burnt.

Enteric Fever. Three cases only occurred in the District during the year, viz: one at Appledore, and one at High Halden in August, and one at Biddenden in October.

The case at Appledore ended fatally on August 5th.

Erysipelas. Four cases of this disease were notified, viz: one in January, two in March, and one in May, one in each of the Parishes of Biddenden, Newenden, Stone-cum-Ebony and Wittersham. All recovered.

Non-notifiable Diseases.

It is most satisfactory to be able to state that not a single death was caused by any of the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, which are not notified, viz: Measles, Whooping Cough or Diarrhoea.

Influenza. One death was attributed to this disease at High Halden in the month of June.

Water Supply.

The Water supply at Wittersham became very short during the latter part of the summer. I inspected the village on two occasions and reported on the matter to your Council on September 24th last as to the desirability of increasing the area to be served by the semi-public supply now available to part of the village.

Mr. Turner's report on work done during the past year, the customary tables of Vital Statistics and the returns required by the Local Government Board are appended.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

James Scott Tew, M.D

March 8th 1898.

January 19th 1898.

To,

The Chairman & Members of the
Tenterden Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report as Inspector
of Nuisances, for the year ending Dec^r 31st 1897.

During this period 238 inspections have been made:
137 under the Public Health Act 1875, and 101 under
the Public Health (Water) Act 1878. In respect of the
1875 Act 68 Nuisances were found to exist, and
"Notices to Abate" were served in each case 62 complying
with the order, the remaining 6 having the work
in hand.

Of the 101 Inspections made under the 1878
Act, 79 Notices were served, the premises visited,
in most cases, being without a water supply of
any description. After serving the "Notices to
provide a sufficient water supply" no further action
has yet been taken.

The second section of the Rolvenden Layne
Drainage is completed.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. L. C. Turner,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Table I

The number of Deaths from all causes and from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases with their Death-rates; the principal causes of death and the Infant Mortality in each Quarter of 1897 in the Tenterden Rural District.

Quarter	Total Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000.	Deaths from 7 principal Zymotics	Zymotic Death-rate.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup.	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas.	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea	Rheumatic Fever	Phtisis	Bronchitis	Pneumonia pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza	Injuries	All other Diseases	Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1000 Births.
1 st	16	10.7	2	1.2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	12	57
2 nd	21	15.1	0	0.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	5	3	1	.	.	10	166
3 rd	14	9.4	3	1.8	.	.	2	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	11	117
4 th	11	8.1	0	0.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	.	.	.	5	0
Totals	62	10.8	5	0.7	.	.	4	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	3	9	5	1	.	.	38	81

Table II

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases during the past ten years and in 1897.

Zymotic Diseases.	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	Average of ten years.	1897.
Small-pox	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.0	0
Scarlet Fever	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	0.2	0
Diphtheria	1	.	.	2	.	9	.	.	3	2	1.7	4
Fevers	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.1	1
Measles	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	0.3	0
Whooping-Cough	.	1	.	1	4	1	.	5	2	.	1.4	0
Diarrhoea.	1	1	.	1	2	2	.	.	.	.	0.7	0
Total 7 Zymotics	4	3	.	4	7	12	.	5	5	4	4.4	5
Other Zymotics	.	2	3	.	5	2	5	1	3	4	2.5	1
Totals	4	5	3	4	12	14	5	6	8	8	6.9	6

Table III.

The more populous Parishes in the Tenterden Rural District ranged in the order of their Death-rates; the total Deaths; Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases and the Zymotic Death rates in the year 1897.

Parishes.	Census Population 1891.	Total Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000.	Deaths from 7 principal Zymotic diseases.	Zymotic Death-rate
Rolvenden	1,194	5	5.2	1	0.8
Biddenden	1,362	7	5.8	0	0.0
High Halden	646	6	9.2	2	3.0
Woodchurch	1,179	11	9.6	0	0.0
Wittersham	803	9	14.5	0	0.0
Appledore	595	10	21.3	2	3.5

Annual Report

— on the —
Health

— of the —
Sentiden Rural
District

— and —

1897

— by —

James Scott Jew, M.D., DPH
Medical Officer of Health

—